



KENDRICK CALFEE | NW MISSOURIAN



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ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Pete Buttigieg spoke shortly at an elementary school in Anamosa, Iowa, Feb. 1, leaving time for several questions from supporters. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Va., answered questions at an AFSCME Union gathering in West Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 1. Former Vice President Joe Biden addresses supporters Feb. 1 in a Cedar Rapids, Iowa, middle school gym.

BUTTIGIEG WINS?

Caucus app failure leaves candidates, voters in the dark

SAMANTHA COLLISON  
Campus News Editor | @sammiecollison

Three days removed from the Iowa caucuses, no victor has been declared. Former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., sit neck-and-neck with 26.9% and 25.2% of the delegates, respectively, but only 75% of precincts have reported at the time of publication. With such a narrow margin and results still coming in, there are no definitive results propelling candidates through the next three of four major democratic primaries. Iowa is lauded for its “first in the nation” status, holding its caucuses before any other states’ presidential primaries. A victory in Iowa usually gives the winner a boost of momentum through the rest of the nomination process. The last four people who won Iowa have gone on to be the nominee, and three more winners of the five years before that. A caucus resembles a town hall

more than a typical balloted election. Voters discuss and debate, trying to coax their friends, family and neighbors to support their candidate. Junior Anthony Maldonado is from Council Bluffs, Iowa, and caucused for the first time this year. He said he originally went in with the intent to caucus for Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass. At each precinct, voters make a first choice. However, candidates who don’t have at least 15% of that precinct’s voters after the first round are not viable for the second round unless voters for the non-viable candidates come together for one candidate to push them over the threshold. This is what happened in precinct CB19, Maldonado said. Former Vice President Joe Biden and Warren supporters realigned to Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., to make her viable at the precinct.

SEE CAUCUSES | A4

Moderate candidates make their case to young voters

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DES MOINES, Iowa — As college-aged students flock toward the most progressive candidates in the field of 2020 Democratic hopeful, the party’s more moderate candidates and their campaign representatives made last-ditch pleas to likely Caucus-goers and pitches to young voters nationwide ahead of the Iowa Caucus Feb. 3. In Iowa, Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Va., who fell short of the Democratic nomination in 2016 after narrowly losing Iowa to Hillary Clinton, the eventual nominee, was in a head-to-head race with Former Mayor of South Bend, Indiana Pete Buttigieg in the polls. In the election cycle’s first primary, Buttigieg polled at 26.7% in the state, with 86% reporting according to the Associated Press tally 5 p.m. Feb. 5.

Trailing Buttigieg and Sanders, according to the poll, was a cluster of moderates, fellow progressives and a host of relative political outsiders. Former Vice President Joe Biden sat at 15.9% Feb. 5 and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., one of the field’s more progressive candidates, is polling just ahead of him in Iowa at 18.4%. In Des Moines and across Iowa Feb. 1, candidates and campaign representatives made pitches to voters both within their perceived base and outside of it, at both rallies and unaffiliated caucus events. Sanders, who was in a tough battle with Buttigieg in the Iowa polls, is the top pick of 39% of Democrats nationwide under the age of 45, according to Politico. Sanders made a stop at an AFSCME Union gathering to speak to an audience of roughly 50 union workers, most of whom were white and over the age of 45, a demographic Sanders struggles with.

SEE MODERATES | A4

8:15 p.m.  
Monday, Feb. 3  
Precinct chairs begin having issues with reporting app  
App issues

4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 4  
62% of precincts reported, Buttigieg in the lead  
First results

1:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Feb. 5  
IDP releases third round with 75% of precincts reporting  
Third results

A TIMELINE OF THE 2020 IOWA CAUCUSES

Caucuses begin  
Voters gather at 1,700 precincts across the state  
Monday, Feb. 3  
7 p.m.

First statement  
Iowa Democratic Party releases statement saying app failure was not a hack  
Monday, Feb. 3  
10 p.m.

Second results  
IDP releases second round of results with 71% of precincts reporting  
Tuesday, Feb. 4  
10 p.m.

Fourth results  
IDP releases second round of results with 86% of precincts reporting  
Wednesday Feb. 5  
4:15 p.m.

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AJ BRADBURY | NW MISSOURIAN

# Northwest sides with caution in the novel coronavirus outbreak

KENDRICK CALFEE  
Community News Editor | @KoalaCalfree

MADLINE MAPES  
News Reporter | @MadelineDMapes

The novel coronavirus that has spread through China has made its way to the U.S. and universities, including Northwest, are taking precautionary measures for an outbreak. The University sent out a reminder via email at 10:40 a.m. Jan. 30 to students, faculty and staff to take precautions from the coronavirus that has spread from Wuhan,

Hubei Province, China, to several regions and countries, the U.S. having recently been added to that list. The school urges students who feel sick or are noticing symptoms of coronavirus, resembling the common cold or influenza, to visit the Wellness Center on campus or a local hospital. As of Feb. 5, Northwest is still discussing specific protocol for what would happen if someone on campus became infected with coronavirus. Communication Manager Mark Hornickel said the Universi-

ty is fortunate to be in a “wait and see” position. “Fortunately there are no cases in Missouri, so we need to make sure we are all on the same page,” Hornickel said about provisions relating to the spread of disease. When the severe H1N1 strain of influenza spread across the nation in 2009, University Wellness took an outreach approach by providing vaccinations to more than 700 students and educating the school population about how to prevent transmission. “If you become ill, stay away from others as much as possible to keep from making them sick,” the University advised in a statement. “If you must leave home, wear a face mask. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Wash your hands often.” However, the University would have to take extra steps to ensure safety since there is no vaccine to

prevent coronavirus infections. Northwest advises students to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for every-day preventative actions, which are all similar to prevention practices relating to influenza. “No cases have been reported with any connection to the Northwest campus,” the University email said. “None are confirmed in Missouri.” The Washington Post reported that the virus has killed more than 427 people and infected more than 17,000 in China as of Feb. 5. The U.S. has seen 11 confirmed cases of the virus that infected 3,235 more people in China Feb. 3. This was the largest single-day jump since the National Health Commission began releasing statistics. Cases of the coronavirus have been reported in Arizona, Massachusetts, Illinois, Washington State and California as of Feb. 5. Universities in these states have started to take precautions to help students and staff protect themselves from contracting the coronavirus. Arizona State University, University of Massachusetts, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Washington and University of California Berkeley all have issued online warnings to all of their students and staff to protect themselves from the coronavirus. All of their websites advise people to “wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or to use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.” People are further advised not to share food, drink, makeup, cigarettes or electronic cigarettes. The sites, all reciting common practices and preventative measures from the CDC and medical professionals in the Mayo Clinic, advised people not to hesitate to stay home when sick and contacting their health care provider with serious concerns. Other precautions include following the Center of Disease Control’s website on coronavirus and to

clean frequently touched surfaces. The University of California Berkeley’s website said that the institution asks its staff to help students who are advised to stay home by utilizing “alternatives to classroom-based learning,” rather than encouraging a possibly infected student to attend class. The website provides a link to their policies and accommodations for students who can’t attend classes in person. Closer to Maryville, the St. Joseph Health Department is paying close attention to updates from the CDC and released a press release on the issue. It included reminders regarding the spread of respiratory disease in the U.S. According to the CDC, “Many of the germs that cause respiratory diseases are spread by droplets that come from coughing and sneezing.” The best way to prevent transmission is by avoiding contact with these droplets. The St. Joseph Health Department said the CDC has been expecting the person-to-person transmission in the U.S. for several weeks, reminding healthcare providers to be hypervigilant and even beginning to require organizations to inquire travel plans when providing patient care. St. Joseph Health Department said though the virus is a concerning threat, it is a respiratory virus that can be transmitted similarly to the flu, meaning prevention can be as easy as washing hands regularly and practicing sanitary methods learned in

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# Students, alumni donate hair to charity

SAMANTHA COLLISON  
Campus News Editor | @SammieCollison

With Rachel Platten’s “Fight Song” blaring through the speakers in Bearcat Arena, Northwest students and alumni paraded onto the court alongside their friends and family members who would cut off anywhere from eight to 16 inches of their hair.

The St. Jude Executive Board held its second Cut Loose event Jan. 30 to collect hair donations for Children With Hair Loss and raise money for St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

In addition to the 46 bags of hair for the wig-making charity, the event raised \$962 for St. Jude, which provides cancer treatment to children with no cost to their families.

Children With Hair Loss, according to its website, is a non-profit that provides human-hair wigs and hairpieces to children and young adults with medically-related hair loss such as cancer treatments, Alopecia and Trichotillomania.

Recipients of hair replacements are eligible to receive a new wig or hairpiece every year until they are 21. CWHL provides more than 300 hair replacements and care kits each year.

St. Jude Executive Board Side Events Chair Maggie Leatherman said the board chose CWHL last year and this year because it provides wigs for some St. Jude patients.

“Last year was more about promoting the event and what it is, and this year I’m just really thankful to see so many people show up again,” Leatherman said.

Leatherman said around 55 people donated hair at last year’s event. She said her goal for this year was 50 donors.



RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN

St. Jude Executive Board Side Events Chair Maggie Leatherman cuts off 8 inches of her hair at the second annual Cut Loose event Jan. 30. The event collected 46 hair donations for Children With Hair Loss and \$962 for St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Leatherman was one of the donors at the event. She said her hair was not long enough to donate last year, so she grew it out for this year’s event, and she was ready for it to go.

Several donors said they had been thinking about cutting their hair beforehand and the opportunity to help a charity was the push they needed to do it.

“I feel like every girl has those thoughts of just like, ‘I should just cut it all,’” freshman Grace Gardner

said. “And then, over winter break I really started to feel that way. I was debating just cutting it at home, but then I thought I could do it for St. Jude and it means something more, and I won’t feel as bad if I regret it.”

Senior Linsey Filger donated at last year’s event and grew her hair back to the same length just to cut it again. She said she never donated her hair before the first Cut Loose, but that experience changed her relationship with her hair.

Filger said bringing her sister to

cut her hair both times and seeing the hair getting sent off eased her nerves about the process.

“I feel like I used to (have an emotional attachment to my hair), but when I did Cut Loose last year, I was like, ‘You know what, I can grow this back. I don’t need this anymore,’” Filger said.

Alumnus Taylor Felz also spent her year growing her hair to chop it. She said she wanted to cut it at last year’s event when she cut someone else’s, but it wasn’t long enough.

“It’s a really small sacrifice to make; hair grows back, but it’ll make a really big difference in the lives of the kids who get wigs,” Felz said.

After donors had their friends or family do the major cutting, professional stylists were available to clean up the cuts, free of charge.

Stylists included Brenda Hammitt and her team from The Haircut Place, Dottie Douglas and her team from Polished and Pampered Day Spa and You Gotta Beauty by Chelsie.

# City seeks solutions to recurring water issues

KENDRICK CALFEE  
Community News Editor | @koalacalfree

Maryville has heard complaints about its public water from citizens for several years, but in the midst of city staff and Public Works problem-solving to limit recurring issues, recent federal deregulation has begun to put local governments like Maryville in a bind with priorities.

As announced the week of Jan. 13, Mozingo Lake saw a large algae bloom that had potential for harmful toxins. One reason for such algae blooms is agricultural runoff, which can oversaturate a body of water with far too many nutrients or even add harmful chemicals that affect wildlife.

City Manager Greg McDanel outlined a plan for the city, including addressing this issue and saying water quality has been and still remains at the top of the city’s priorities going forward.

“There were also no violations that occurred during the 2019 calendar year,” McDanel said. “Even though the report is not complete.”

The Trump administration is removing clean water protections acts that were set in place to protect rivers, streams and other bodies of water from pollution and runoff from industrial and commercial facilities.

With at least seven larger-scale local agriculture entities operating close to streams and water that lead

to Mozingo Lake, as well as land owners with homes near the lake, deregulation is leaving the responsibility of safe practices to the businesses and individuals themselves.

Though the city is still weighing its options on how to best tackle the issue, McDanel said staff has a few options at its disposal.

“(We are) working with individual farmers to know what kind of nutrients are coming off their properties, and what we can do in partnership to reduce those,” McDanel said.

McDanel outlined a plan to the city council at its Jan. 27 meeting, showing that whatever route the staff chose, it would likely come with a price tag that’s hard to look at.

One of the options was directed toward solving the issue of water odor and color complaints the city has received time and again, which would come in the form of updating the filters the city used to a granular-activated carbon.

However, the additions required to add this upgrade would cost the city \$6.6 million, meaning a shifting of funds would likely take place to get that job done.

Council members took to the idea of making necessary changes even if it meant taking on a hefty expense.

Councilman Tye Parsons said he would rather take a painful hit financially in the short term if it meant a more efficient, better lasting system for water treatment in

the long term.

“I don’t want to take the Band-Aid approach,” Parsons said.

On Jan. 13, when the city announced a potential for cyanobacteria, it also posted warning signage at the lake in accordance with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, warning people to avoid contact with the lake’s water.

The warning was issued since testing revealed an increasing amount of blue algae blooming, that in turn has the capability to produce cyanotoxins, which can be harmful to animals and humans.

FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

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# POLICE BLOTTERS

for the week of  
Feb. 6

## Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

**Jan. 29**  
There is an open investigation for property damage at Lot 42.

A summons was issued to **Alec Lawson**, 19, for possession of marijuana at Hudson Hall.

**Jan. 30**  
There is an open investigation for property damage at Lot 42.

A summons was issued to **Liam Lane**, 19, for possession of marijuana at Dieterich Hall.

**Feb. 2**  
There was a closed investigation for a liquor law violation at Willow Apartments.

**Feb. 4**  
A summons was issued to **Tonya Esher**, 20, and **Ashley Siler**, 18, for fourth degree assault (affray) at Tower Suites.

## Maryville Department of Public Safety

**Jan. 19**  
There is an ongoing investigation for burglary on the 200 block of West Seventh Street.

**Jan. 24**  
A summons was issued to **Dakota J. McMahon**, 17, for possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to obey a traffic signal on the 300 block of North Main Street.

**Jan. 26**  
A summons was issued to **Jesus J. Herrera**, 21, of Riverside, Missouri, for assault and trespassing on the 400 block of North Buchanan Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for burglary on the 100 block of East Third Street.

**Jan. 27**  
There is an ongoing investigation for burglary on the 500 block of East Sixth Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for identity theft on the 1500 block of East Edwards Street.

**Jan. 28**  
A summons was issued to **Trey M. Hoeper**, 19, for minor in possession and possession of a fake I.D. on the 200 block of North Main Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage on the 300 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Tylar R. Roush**, 20, for failure to register a motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility on the 800 block of North Country Club Road.

**Jan. 29**  
A summons was issued to **Hunter D. Smith**, 23, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear on the 400 block of North Market Street.

**Jan. 31**  
A summons was issued to **Hunter S. Johnson**, 17, for possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to display lighted headlamps on the 600 block of North Main Street.

A summons was issued to **Cory M. Ribble**, 27, for discharging a firearm in the city on the 200 block of South Mulberry Street.

**Feb. 1**  
A summons was issued to **Amber J. Estes**, 23, for driving while intoxicated, disorderly conduct and in a park after hours on the 500 block of North Laura Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for fraud on the 1600 block of South Main Street.

A summons was issued to **Charla J. Eggleston**, 19, for minor in possession on the 400 block of North Buchanan Street.

## CAUCUSES

CONTINUED FROM A1

With so much riding on the evening of Feb. 3, the country turned its gaze to the state into which candidates have poured millions of dollars and thousands of volunteer hours over the last few months.

Watching live feeds closely as 8 p.m. approached, the democratic candidates, their campaign staffs and their supporters waited anxiously for the results to trickle in. They waited and waited. They waited for something that would not arrive.

As an untested app failed and calls flooded into the Iowa Democratic Party’s boiler room from 1,700 districts, party officials clammed up.

“This is simply a reporting issue,” read a statement from the Iowa Democratic Party Monday night. “The app did not go down, and this is not a hack or intrusion. The underlying data and papertrail is sound.”

But no results were announced, and no promises were made about when they would arrive beyond some time Tuesday.

According to the New York Times, the app used to report precinct results was developed by for-profit tech company Shadow Inc., with an employee who worked on the app saying it was put together in two months.

There is no indication that the app was vetted by cybersecurity experts or tested on a large scale. According to the New York Times, Director of the Department of Homeland Security’s cybersecurity agency Christopher C. Krebs said the Department did not evaluate the app’s security.

According to CNN, precinct chairs were not required to train with the app at all, and the New York Times reported only a quarter had successfully downloaded the app. By 8:15 p.m., the app showed a high error rate.

When the app failed, the precinct chairs attempted to call the hotline used in previous years, but the lines were overloaded and hold times extended past 90 minutes.

With no results, candidates were left with nothing but speculation and fragments of stump speeches to offer waiting supporters.

“From our indications it’s going to be close,” Biden said. “We’re gonna walk out of here with our share of delegates. We don’t know what exactly it is yet, but we feel good about where we are.”

Sanders and Warren both said it was too close to declare any victories. Buttigieg, however, made the boldest declaration — or gamble, depending on perspective.

“Tonight, an improbable hope became an undeniable reality,” Buttigieg said. “So we don’t know all the results, but we know by the time it’s all said and done, Iowa,

you have shocked the nation. Because, by all indications, we are going on to New Hampshire victorious.”

Before the caucuses, Buttigieg was polling third with 16.8%, according to RealClearPolitics’ poll averages.

“I thought that it was a little strange that there had been no results being released when I left but was unaware that there had been any problems,” Maldonado said in an email. “Since this was my first time caucusing, I didn’t know that that wasn’t normal to not have any results at that point in time.”

As media outlets attempted to make sense of the app situation, their live-results graphics remained blank until 4 p.m. Feb. 4. The Iowa Democratic Party released the results from 62% of precincts. Biden — who was polling in second that morning — was in a distant fourth.

Buttigieg sat on top at 26.9% with Sanders following close behind at 25.1%. Warren was firmly positioned in third with 18.3%.

With a less than 2% lead, it was too close to call anything. When delegates started pledging, Sanders and Buttigieg had an even 10 each.

Later Tuesday night, another wave of results came in with 71% of precincts reporting. The gap between Buttigieg and Sanders narrowed by 0.1%, but the ranking order remained the same.

In spite of the uncertainty, the candidates have moved on to New

Hampshire, starting the process of town halls, stump speeches, advertising and door knocking all over again in preparation for the debate Feb. 7 and the primary election Feb. 11.

Following that, the candidates will move on to the final two essential primaries in Nevada and South Carolina before the month is out.

In spite of the political steamroller’s ever-forward momentum, this year’s Iowa caucuses have not been a failure in a vacuum.

According to the New York Times, the Nevada Democratic Party has decided against using Shadow’s app in its caucuses like it originally planned. Conspiracy theories have bloomed in the absence of transparency from the Iowa Democratic Party, suggesting the app was hacked or the race is rigged against Sanders or Biden.

According to the Washington Post, the party said the further delays in reporting results are for the sake of accuracy, but the country still awaits definitive answers.

“I honestly felt as though the Iowa Democratic Party did not handle this in the best way possible,” Maldonado said in an email. “I think that after this whole debacle, it is going to be hard for the IDP to continue to make the case for using the caucus system. ... Additionally, I think that this whole thing is going to cause people to lose faith in the IDP.”

## MODERATES

CONTINUED FROM A1

For Sanders, the stop was unscheduled, with his presence hijacking the event that Tom Steyer, a billionaire and former hedge fund manager who polled at 0.3% in Iowa, was set to headline.

“You are entitled to health care as a human right,” Sanders said at the event. “And that is comprehensive. What Medicare for All does is build on a strong medicare program and it expands it. ... And because we are gonna take on the greed and corruption of the pharmaceutical industry, nobody in America under Medicare for All will pay more than \$200 a year for prescription drugs.”

But as Sanders stuck to the talking points that have won him the support of a young base, touting the advantages of his signature Medicare for All platform to a group of aging voters with union healthcare plans, the field’s moderate candidates and their representatives made what appeared to be more concentrated efforts to sway undecided young voters in Iowa.

Biden has enjoyed support from the older members of the Democratic party but has struggled with young voters. Biden polled at 33% among Democrats in the 45-and-older demographic, according to Politico, a demographic in which Sanders polls 16%.

Leveraging his experiences alongside former president Barack Obama and in the United States Congress, Biden said no other candidates can match him.

However, in a state that has historically shaped the rest of the presidential nomination process, there were no clear favorites in Iowa leading up to the caucuses. After a rally accompanied by a concert Feb. 1, Sen. Bernie Sanders saw a 3.7% bump in the polls, putting him just over Biden in the Real Clear Politics average as of Feb. 2.

A focus of his campaign trail in Iowa, which consisted of 23 events in nine days, Biden sought voters with his appeals to policy affecting minorities and speaking out against Donald Trump and his administration.

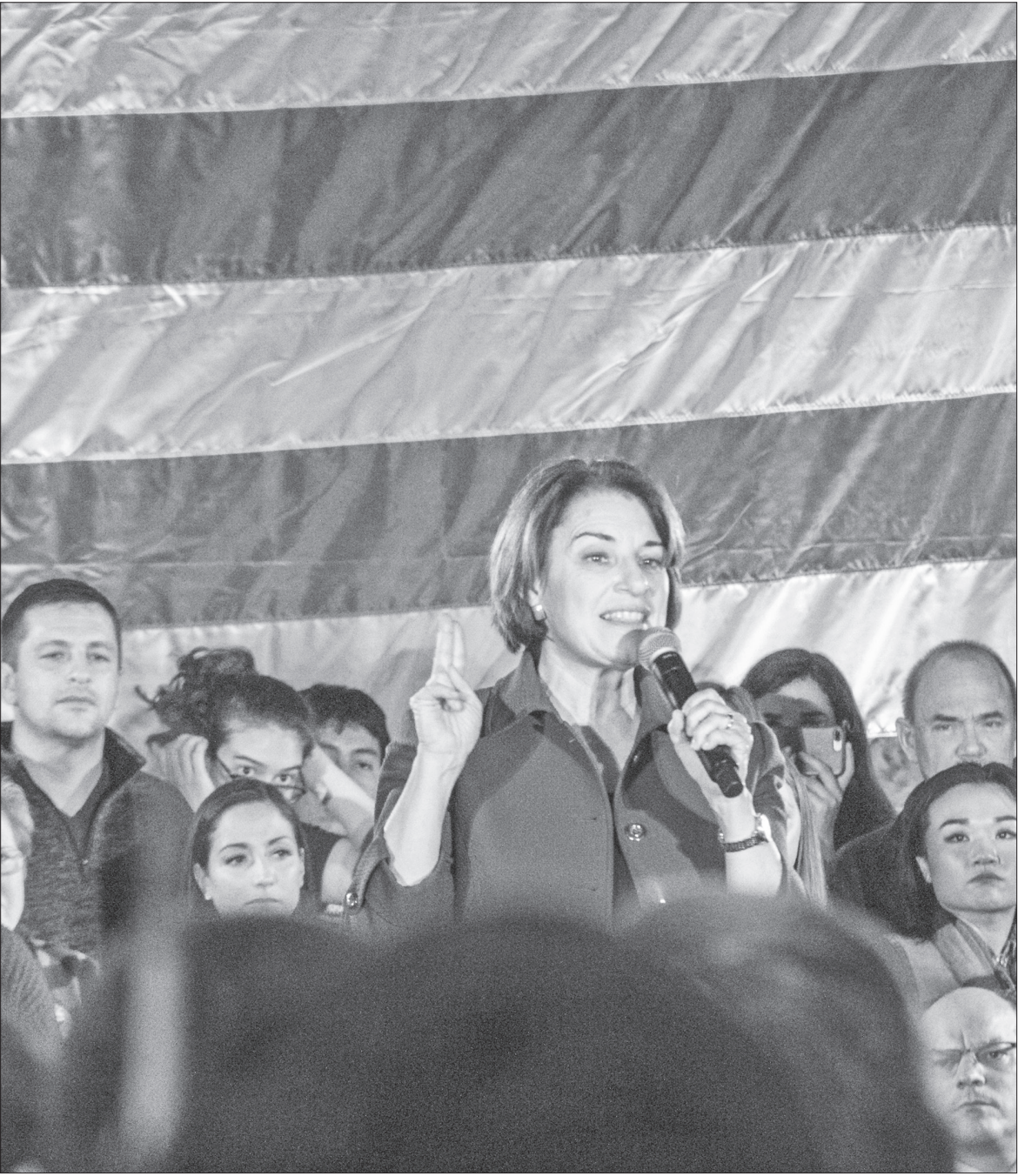
“You owe it — in Iowa — to the nation to make sure that Donald Trump is not the next president of the United States,” Biden said.

Biden, who moderates have called a “safe choice” in the 2020 election, said he sees policies and proposals from Sanders and Warren like healthcare for all as too far out of touch with what can be passed across party lines.

Biden said he is less hopeful for dramatic changes in the fight against climate change, but said he would work to follow through with strategy mirroring the Obama administration’s approach.

“The vast majority of American people know me,” Biden said. “I’m the only one with a plan that’s done it before.”

Appearing at the AFSCME event on behalf of Biden, Tom Vilsack, who was the governor of Iowa for two terms and served as the Secretary of Agriculture in the Obama administration, made a case for the former vice president as the most



Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., addresses a rally of more than 1,000 in Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 1 ahead of her fifth place finish in the Iowa caucuses, where she finished one spot behind fellow moderate Joe Biden, according to the AP.

electable candidate and an attempted appeal to young voters.

“There are a lot of working-class kids who understand and appreciate Joe Biden’s commitment to access to a community college education to get started,” Vilsack said. “At the end of the day, this isn’t just about young people, it’s not just about senior citizens — it’s about all of us.”

Campaigning for Buttigieg as the mayor fought for a top spot, Rep. Anthony Brown, D-Md., found himself in a similar camp as Vilsack. One poll conducted in late January pegged Buttigieg as one of the field’s least popular candidates among 18-29-year-old voters, a demographic where the former mayor is polling at 3%, according to the poll for Forbes.

Brown had traveled to Iowa from Maryland, doing last-minute groundwork, making a case for a moderate in the most progressive primary in history, campaigning for the youngest candidate in the race who has struggled to captivate the nation’s young voters.

“We’re focusing a lot on that,” Brown said. “Those who did not caucus in ’16 and are very likely to caucus in 2020 — we’ve spent a lot of time and energy on that. So, in some cases, that might mean the younger caucus-goers. ... We’ve campaigned extensively in counties where a lot of Democratic campaigns sort have not

even spent any time there.”

And then there was Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., who hosted a rally at Franklin Junior High School Feb. 1 which brought out more than 1,000 supporters. Like Buttigieg, Klobuchar is a moderate who has struggled to excite young voters. Unlike Buttigieg, though, Klobuchar has done little to excite middle-aged and older voters either, polling at just 12.1% in the Associated Press polls, finishing 5th in the Iowa race

At her 8:30 p.m. rally in Des Moines, though, facing a packed gym, Klobuchar’s last-minute pitch pandered less to a young caucus and more to a centrist Iowan base, relaying the same moderate message that hasn’t always appealed to young voters, in part because it wasn’t designed to.

She spent close to as much time at her rally talking about President Donald Trump as she did her own moderate policies, comparing herself and contrasting herself to a president who she referred to as a “bully” and a “racist.” She categorized the president as an elitist, out of touch with the Iowa voters who supported him with 51.1% of their votes in 2016.

Klobuchar weaved her moderate policies with political comparison and anecdotes from her campaign trail and personal life, wrapping

the policy stances in conservative, common-sense rhetoric. Her pitch to young voters appears to depend on young voters thinking like middle-aged ones.

“This election is not just an economic check,” Klobuchar said. “It is also a decency check. It is a patriotism check. It is a value check. ... That’s what this is about.”

After the weekend of last-minute rallies, the Democrats were a step closer to determining who among them might challenge in the 2020 election, but the path forward still lacks clarity. There are still early primary elections in New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada that could prove vital in determining the nominee. There is still Super Tuesday, March 3, when 14 states host their primaries.

At her rally in Des Moines, Klobuchar told a story about her experience on Election Night in 2016, about where she was and what she did when she learned of Trump’s victory. She got a text, she said, from her daughter. It posed a question that has remained unanswered for the Democrats for the last three years, but one that was further defined with the outcome of the caucuses Feb. 3.

“What should we do now?” Klobuchar said.



Anxiety, depression require unique care

ZANE CULJAT Columnist @CuljatZane



Look. I’m sure I’m not the first one to tell you that mental health is a serious problem in this country and on this campus. It’s become too prolific an issue to ignore. Take it from me. From the age of 12, I have struggled with crippling depression and anxiety. For years, I let it bottle up inside me, petrified to reach out amid my own stupid inhibitions. Only recently did I finally make the decision to admit I wasn’t sound. One emergency room visit and countless welfare checks later, I know now that I’m not alone. Suicide was the second leading

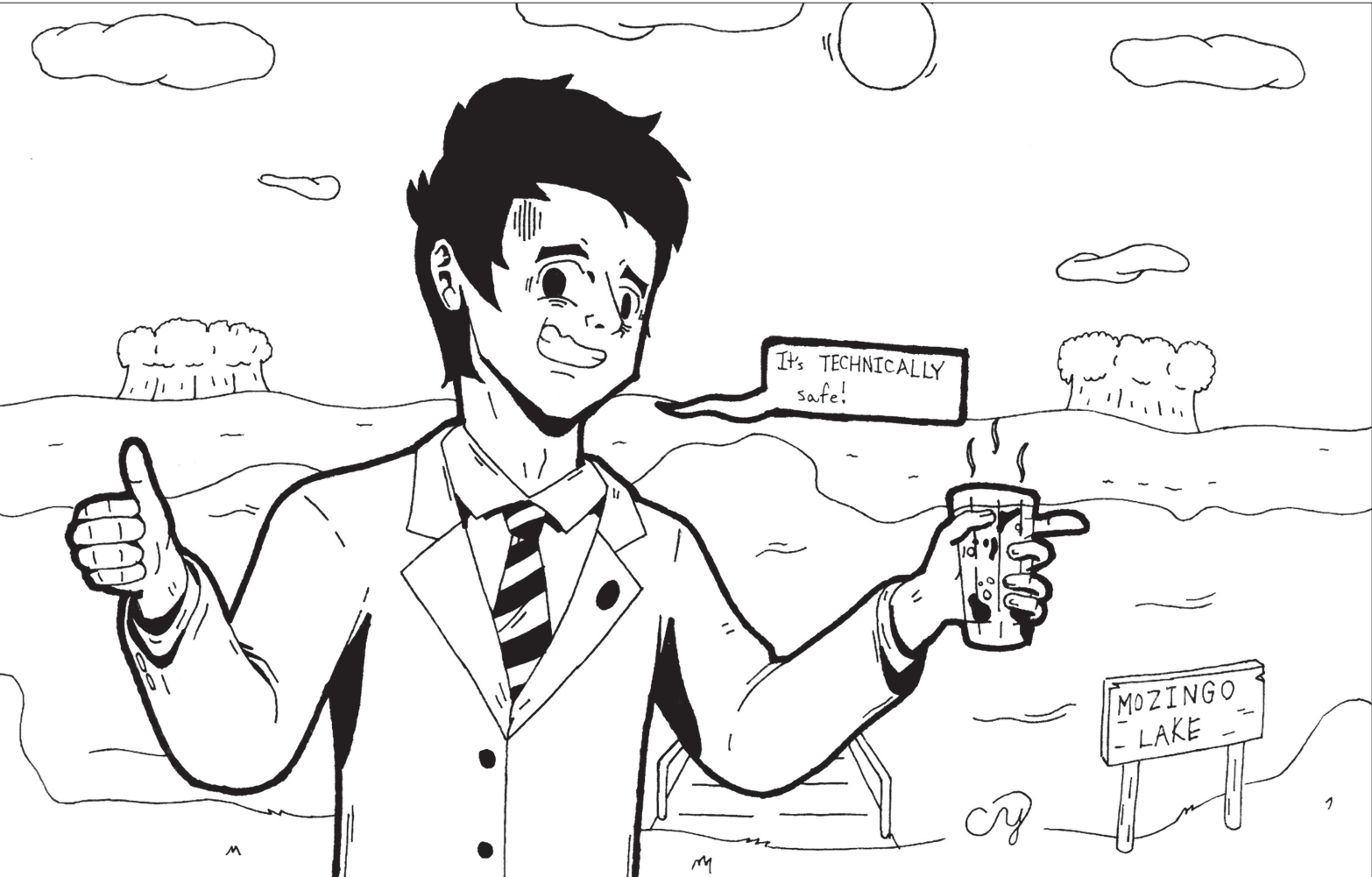
cause of death among college students in 2017, according to data from the National Institute of Mental Health. It claimed up to 15,000 lives in Missouri alone that year, per figures from the Centers for Disease Control. In an ideal world, suicide would be completely preventable. Adequate treatment and counseling services would be readily available. State and national crisis lines would be able to keep up with the seemingly incessant volume of calls. No one would have to endure the anxiety of police officers busting down their door to talk to them. This epidemic likely would not be considered as such.

Those who struggle often loathe the idea of talking about their feelings, especially with someone other than whom they trust. In reality, they’re most likely worried about being discounted or being told that this is just a phase that will soon pass. Nobody understands them, no matter how vanilla they try to make it. The small things, like brushing your teeth, become a daily accomplishment. Eating? Forget about it — maybe one meal a day if you’re lucky enough to have the motivation to get out of bed. Not to mention — light is toxic. We vampires prefer darkness, isolation, nothing — save for us and our inner

voices. And devilish those voices are. If a friend seems down or disinterested in most things, he or she is likely showing a red flag regarding their mental state. Perhaps they might be giving away possessions, fantasizing about taking their life, or sleeping too much or not at all.

[If you are having thoughts of suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) or go to SpeakingOfSuicide.com/resources for a list of additional resources.]

FULL STORY ONLINE: NWMISSOURINEWS.COM



CHRIS YOUNG | NW MISSOURIAN

OUR VIEW:

City officials too slow to react to water issue

The city of Maryville knew at least two years ago that Mozingo Lake had an algae problem, something The Northwest Missourian reported on as early as January 2018 and something that has somehow gone unfixed in the meantime. Back then, The Missourian reported, the city tinkered with the chemical levels used in Maryville’s drinking water while the City Council looked at long-term solutions. PeopleService Inc. Steve Guthrie said then that the situation was “a curveball from mother nature.” City Manager Greg McDanel said the algae bloom, which has had a negative effect on the taste of the city’s drinking water, “must be treated chemically.” Two years later, the issue persists. While Maryville citizens have been drinking water that one resident, Kyle Ponder, told The Missourian “tastes like dirt,” the city has sat on its hands. McDanel, the apparent champion of the water issue both then and now, displayed a 20-minute presen-

tation at Maryville’s City Council meeting Jan. 27, pitching long-term solutions to a council that should have acted more broadly two years ago, stressing the importance of a budget that could have already been set aside. He noted, through several slides and data-filled graphs, that the chemical treatment — the same one he touted two years ago — has been ineffective. McDanel has continued to stress that the Missouri Department of Natural Resources declared Maryville’s drinking water safe, saying it has never fallen below the minimum standards for drinking water. And that appears to be the new bar for Maryville — the minimum standard. Several times over the last few weeks, as McDanel has re-engaged with the issue, the city manager has talked up the water’s odor and taste — perhaps the only two things residents care about beyond assured quality — as generally trivial concerns, footnotes that flow through more than 10,000 people’s show-

erheads every day. “Even if the lake were to release toxins, we were advised that it wouldn’t be enough to get through the ventilation process,” McDanel said. “The lake has experienced issues over the past several years with this kind of aesthetic issue with odor and taste. We are working to improve.” Despite his misuse of the word “aesthetic,” McDanel has not been the only city official to drop the ball on this issue while the city waits impatiently and the mayor signs his check. Public Works Director C.E. Goodall bragged to a reporter about the city’s overuse of a membrane filter at Mozingo, a filter designed to last seven years but in its ninth year of operation. “We’ve done really well this time getting a little extra out of it than what they tell us we can,” Goodall told The Missourian. It’s not clear if the membrane’s expiration has any effect on the apparently-aesthetic issues in Maryville’s water supply, but the

instance does underline the greater problem with the city’s approach over the last two years, which is the use of a Band-Aid approach in attempting to fix a problem that affects 11,757 residents. The biggest aesthetic issue in Maryville is the look that comes with city officials admitting to leaning on expired filters and scapegoating problems that could have been tackled in 2018. “In hindsight, this is something that should have been started with the development of the lake and been made a top priority,” McDanel said. “But as a lake ages and nutrient levels change, this is a definite priority for us moving forward.” The latest commitment to progress feels empty in the wake of the renewed algae bloom. The city has neglected citizens and cyanotoxins, waiting too long to do too little, finally prioritizing a concern it should have two years ago.

YOUR VIEW: Do you utilize a personal water filter in Maryville?



“Yes, I (filter my water). It just — it doesn’t taste good, really. ... After drinking it, it sort of hurts my throat. It’s just not as pure as what I want it to be.” - Mason McClellan | Sophomore Vocal Music Education



“Yeah, I use a Brita (filter). I do it anywhere. I’m not from here, but we do it at home too. I’m from Buffalo, (New York).” - Emma Sabio | Sophomore Cyber Security



“I do filter my water because the water here has, like, I don’t want to say strong, but it’s like a bitter aftertaste. It tastes like it hasn’t been filtered or the PH balance isn’t where it needs to be in the filtration.” - Rashonda Alexander | Junior Criminal Justice

Gen ed classes waste of students’ time, money

NATHAN ENGLISH Columnist @ThananEnglish



The purpose of general education courses is to make university students more well-rounded, but they are more likely to turn stressed-out college students into debt-ridden adults. General education classes are well-intended but impractical given students’ schedules and fees. Students should be able to test out of core subjects, allowing them to focus more on major-specific classes, shortening graduation dates and, most importantly, saving them money. The idea behind general education classes is a noble one: make those coming out of college

more complete citizens by providing them with a shallow depth of knowledge on various subjects. That’s what high school is for, making students take redundant classes similar to high school courses wastes students time, which equals money, and money, which also equals money. The cost to attend college has increased a staggering 35% for public four-year universities the past decade, according to the College Board, a non-profit designed to help students with higher education. The rising costs can be credited to decreased funding from the state of Missouri and the U.S. government. The great state of Missouri that is behind the eight-ball in many categories currently ranks 45th in the U.S. in higher education funding, according to Politifact.

The cost is more than most students can bear without the aid of loans, creating a lingering debt that will hang with many students post-college. The standard time to pay off student loans is around 20 years, according to Cengage, an educational services company. That means if a person has a child when they begin paying college debt, they would be nearly legal to drink by the time student loans are paid off. Students need to be able to trim the fat off of their student fees and general education courses are a lot of fat. Northwest groups its general education requirements under the moniker “Northwest Core.” The Northwest Core is comprised of 44 credit hours of core subjects such as English, science, math and history. I propose that students should

have the ability to test out of most, if not all, of these subjects which make up over one-third of the credits required to graduate. The cost per in-state credit hour at Northwest is \$343.25 and \$584.16 for out-of residents, according to the Bursar Office. Students being able to test out of just one class could save over \$1,000. Similar policies are in place already concerning ACT scores. Students with at least 27 on the math portion of the ACT can bypass the Northwest Core math requirements. Students can also be placed in accelerated composition for high marks on the English portion of the ACT. Universities would become more efficient, and class sizes for general education courses would shrink, potentially decreasing pro-

fessors’ workload. Students could focus on classes directly affecting their major and career, and professors could spend more time teaching students who care about classes they are in. Missouri already requires the Assessment of Core Proficiencies for every college student that has completed 60 credit hours. The assessment is a standardized test that covers core subjects and is supposed to evaluate what students have learned from general education courses in college. The test could easily be shifted to the beginning of college to see whether students even need to take those classes at all. The Northwest slogan is “Career ready day one.” If students could test out of general education classes, day one would come a lot faster.

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# SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

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		3				6		
6				4	3		5	1

# HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative

**ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
There is more to a situation than meets the eye, Aries. Delve a little deeper this week to get to the truth. Uncovering the truth will allow you to move forward.

**TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, take a break for a few days to recharge your batteries. If you work too hard, you are going to suffer from burnout. Make this a week of rest and recreation.

**GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21**  
You have a funny way of looking at things sometimes, Gemini. That can work to your advantage in providing a fresh perspective that others may overlook.

**CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Cancer, when you are approached with a potential career opportunity, do not immediately dismiss it. It may not be the right time currently, but take inventory of your future goals.

**LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23**  
This week you need to make your mark in some way, Leo. You have many clever ideas circling in your head that want out, so think of how you can deploy your creative side.

**VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, accept help when it is offered this week, even if it tugs at your pride a little bit. Sometimes even the strongest can benefit from a shoulder to lean on.

**LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
A failure to recognize all sides of the equation could put you into an unfortunate situation, Libra. Do not assume that your perspective is the right one; do your research carefully.

**SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, just when you think you have everything figured out, something changes. Just because you don't have the rule book doesn't mean you can't plot a course.

**SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Devote more of your attention to family matters in the days to come, Sagittarius. Work may seem all-consuming, but home is where your heart is.

**CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Fun times are just around the corner, Capricorn. You must have the patience to get there. Put some social events on your calendar so you have something to forward to.

**AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Before you give up on an idea, run it by some trusted confidantes, Aquarius. You may be missing just one detail that can make this a recipe for ultimate success.

**PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, it's time to get a better feel for your finances. Tweak things as necessary, and make all decisions with your finances in mind.

# Chiefs parade disappointment



CHRIS YOUNG | NW MISSOURIAN



# CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

## Last Week's Solutions

2	9	4	3	7	6	1	8	5
5	7	1	8	9	4	6	2	3
6	3	8	2	1	5	7	4	9
3	8	5	4	6	1	9	7	2
7	6	9	5	8	2	3	1	4
4	1	2	7	3	9	8	5	6
1	5	3	6	4	8	2	9	7
9	2	6	1	5	7	4	3	8
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				D	E	N	O	M	I	N	A
				S	E	P	I	A	S		

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Recurring TV show  
7. Throws out  
13. Iberian Peninsula microstate  
14. Gossip  
16. Atomic #20  
17. Ivy League institution  
19. Of I  
20. "He Is \_\_\_!": Scripture excerpt  
22. Musical genre  
23. Heavy cavalry sword  
25. Ancient Olympic Site  
26. Satisfies  
28. Popular flower  
29. Shared services center  
30. Drain  
31. A way to attack  
33. Urban Transit Authority  
34. Spiritual leader  
36. Postponed  
38. N. American plant with edible purple-black berries  
40. Gazes unpleasantly  
41. Gets up  
43. Capital of Ukraine  
44. Returned material authorization (abbr.)  
45. Golf score  
47. Superhigh frequency  
48. Swiss river  
51. Felons  
53. Succulent plants  
55. Soluble ribonucleic acid  
56. Deliberately setting fire to  
58. Infamous singer Zadora  
59. Anwar \_\_\_, Egyptian statesman  
60. Influential sports mag  
61. Aromatic Mediterranean plant  
64. Sixth note of a major scale  
65. Unit of explosive power  
67. Large watertight chamber  
69. Popular street  
70. A way of watering

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
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16				17				18					19	
20		21				22				23		24		
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29				30				31		32		33		
		34	35						36		37			
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51			52		53		54				55			
56				57		58				59				
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66						67				68		
	69								70					

3. Anchor ropes  
4. Large Middle Eastern country  
5. To make a mistake  
6. Ancient governor  
7. Extents  
8. Chinese surname  
9. NYC subway "residents"  
10. Essential oil used as perfume  
11. A way to treat injuries (abbr.)  
12. Session  
13. Units of land areas  
15. Goes over once more  
18. Where wrestlers work  
21. Italian islanders  
24. Avenue  
26. \_\_ Adams, U.S. President  
27. Rest with legs bent  
30. Type of flour  
32. The Golden State (abbr.)
35. More (Spanish)  
37. Stinging, winged insect  
38. The use of irony to mock  
39. Arsenals  
42. Pouch  
43. 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet  
46. Violent seizure of property  
47. Restrict  
49. Something comparable to another  
50. Punishment device made from stems  
52. Soul and calypso songs  
54. Formerly OSS  
55. Athabaskan language  
57. \_\_ bene: observe carefully  
59. Six (Spanish)  
62. Read-only memory  
63. Chinese philosophical principle  
66. American conglomerate  
68. Tin

- CLUES DOWN
1. Mollusks  
2. \_\_\_, denotes past





Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes and tight end Travis Kelce celebrate their Super Bowl win during the parade throughout downtown Kansas City, Missouri Feb. 5.

# Northwest students celebrate Kansas City’s Super Bowl win

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Managing Editor | @andrewwegley

As Patrick Mahomes threw the ball away and the Kansas City Chiefs clinched their first Lombardi Trophy in 50 years Feb. 2, winning Super Bowl LIV 31-20 over the San Francisco 49ers, a celebration commenced in Miami, Florida.

There was Andy Reid, the future Hall of Fame head coach, hugging his wife and his coaching staff, basking in an accomplishment that eluded him for two decades.

There was Travis Kelce, hugging offensive coordinator Eric Benemy before yelling enough expletives that Fox’s production team had to switch to another shot.

And there was Mahomes, who fought through hoards of people with cameras to reach his coach, where the two assured a television reporter that the 50-year wait for a Super Bowl win in Kansas City was indeed worth it.

As the celebration spilled from the field to the locker room to the plane ride home to Kansas City, Missouri, it spread elsewhere too.

It reached the Power and Light District of Kansas City, where thousands of fans watched the game and celebrated accordingly. It reached downtown Lawrence, Kansas, where hundreds of University of Kansas students flooded Mass Street. And it reached Maryville, Missouri, where the celebratory screams coming from both in and outside of The Powerhouse could be heard four blocks away, even 20 minutes after the Chiefs had secured a victory.

“How am I feeling?” Northwest junior Wilson Brown said, swaying inside Powerhouse in the aftermath of the game. “I’m feeling freaking amazing, you know what I’m saying? Like, hey, it’s my birthday, the Chiefs won the Super Bowl, I’m from KCK.”

“We living life right now,” Brown, who celebrated his 22nd birthday with an 11-point Super Bowl victory, added. “Let’s go Chiefs.”

“Let’s go Chiefs” was a common refrain inside Powerhouse following the Chiefs’ long-awaited win. Close to 20 minutes after Kansas City’s victory, the bar, soaked in alcohol from a champagne-style celebration, did not clear out. More patrons came, many of whom described the Chiefs’ recent feat in ways not suitable for print.

As the Chiefs celebrated their own accomplishment 1,500 miles

away in Miami, Northwest students and local bar patrons tried to describe why the Lombardi-clinching win felt so personal.

There was sophomore Will Walker, a Maryville native and former high school quarterback who said he had full faith in the Chiefs, even as they trailed San Francisco by two scores in the fourth quarter.

There was senior Chandler Eastwood, who grew up 45 minutes away from Arrowhead Stadium and described himself as “speechless” before talking for several minutes about what the victory meant to him, standing beer-soaked in the middle of Powerhouse.

And there was Brown, the Kansas City, Kansas, native not concerned with the distinction, who referred to his hometown Chiefs as “we” more than once.

“(I’ve been a Chiefs fan) my whole life, basically,” Walker said. “Ever since I was born. It just feels great, with all the ups and downs this season and the high expectations coming in. It’s just fantastic to go out on top.”

“It’s crazy. I’ve been waiting my whole life for this, and it was one of those things where we’ve been in the postseason every year —” Eastwood said, before being interrupted by Brown, who worked his way across the bar to yell the same phrase he’d leaned on in the aftermath of Kansas City’s historic win.

“We won the Super Bowl!” Brown said.

“We’ve been in the postseason every year,” Eastwood continued. “You’d never think the Chiefs could make the last step. But they did it tonight.”

While the Chiefs’ Super Bowl drought had stretched 50 years until it ended Feb. 2, most Northwest students are only old enough to remember the last 20 years of it. But the Chiefs had packed a lifetime’s worth of disappointment into the last two decades.

There was heartbreak in the 2003 season, when Peyton Manning’s Colts beat Trent Green’s Chiefs 38-31 in the “No Punt Game” with a trip to the AFC Championship game on the line. There was more in the 2014 playoffs when the Chiefs suffered several injuries and watched a 28-point lead slip away against Andrew Luck’s Colts.

There was the time Kansas City lost a home playoff game, in January 2017, without allowing the Pittsburgh Steelers to score a touch-

down. There was the time, one season later, when the Chiefs allowed Tennessee Titans’ quarterback Marcus Mariota to throw a touchdown pass to himself. There was that time, just last season, where the AFC title game came down to an offsides penalty and a coin flip.

And there were all those really bad times in between the bad times, those seasons that made fans appreciate the playoff blunders that followed because it at least meant the Chiefs were in the playoffs. There were quarterbacks like Tyler Palko that made fans appreciate quarterbacks like Tyler Thigpen, while the quarterbacks like Thigpen made Matt Cassel look like a godsend.

It was quarterbacks like that in times like those that tested the mettle of a generation of Chiefs fans. And it was times like that — the times of Damon Huard and Scott Pioli and Herm Edwards — that gave way to the better times that came with Alex Smith, Reid and, of course, Mahomes.

It was the bad times and the really bad times that helped the Chiefs’ latest season feel so personal for so many fans, for fans like Brown, Walker, Eastwood and Drew Cottrill, a Northwest senior from Albany, Missouri, who learned to love the franchise when the dark years were all he knew.

Following Kansas City’s win and on his way into Burny’s Sports Bar, Cottrill compared the feeling that came with the Super Bowl to the feeling that came with the Kansas City Royals’ World Series win in 2015. But even that victory, Cottrill said, didn’t fully compare.

“Seeing the Royals win it in 2015 ... that was awesome, but it didn’t compare at all to what we saw today,” Cottrill said, as a pair of strangers walking on the other side of Market Street yelled, “Go Chiefs.”

“It always pays off,” Cottrill added. “You almost feel like you’re not being humble, but at the same time, it’s like, I think by sticking with the Chiefs through all these years, it’s like you deserve it. I feel like we earned it.”

Cottrill said he skipped the parade that celebrated the Royals’ World Series Championship in 2015, a decision he regretted. He had classes Wednesday when the Chiefs’ parade commenced but said he would try to go.

Cottrill’s story was a common theme at Northwest this week. One student, freshman Joshua Putney, did what he could to help.

Putney, a Steelers fan, is not sure why he is the one of Northwest’s 7,104 students who decided to create a petition on change.org, encouraging Northwest’s administration to cancel classes. He watched the game with fellow members of Sigma Phi Epsilon and had a great time doing so, he said. And he realized how important the game was and the Chiefs are to those around him.

“I know how badly everyone wants to go to that parade,” Putney said. “I was just kind of wanting to be the voice for everyone else.”

By the end of the game, Putney said, he felt more excited for the Chiefs’ Super Bowl win than either of Pittsburgh’s championship wins in his lifetime. The petition he created Feb. 4 amassed 2,500 signatures — the original target goal — after less than eight hours.

Putney planned to email the petition to President John Jasinski at 5 p.m. Feb. 4. By then, the petition had garnered more than 3,300 signatures. Northwest didn’t budge.

“I figured it was a longshot,” Putney said. “But it was the best shot we got. ... This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

In other cities, the phrase once-in-a-lifetime may not be applicable to championship parades. In Kansas City, it can be used literally. And that’s why Putney, among other students, is going to the parade anyway.

The same is true for Brown, who said less than 20 minutes after the game that he wouldn’t be attending classes Feb. 5 regardless of whether or not Northwest canceled, though his exact expletive-filled phrasing can’t be used in a newspaper. Cottrill doesn’t intend on missing another parade, either. The same applies to Walker.

“Yeah, I am (skipping),” Walker said. “Don’t tell my mom though.”

And then there was Eastwood, drenched in alcohol in the middle of a bar on a Sunday, vowing to skip class on Wednesday. He was not concerned with the potential academic ramifications. He was not concerned with how wet his shirt was. Like the thousands of fans who attended the parade, he was concerned with making up for lost time, with celebrating a victory unlike one he’d ever seen.

“That’s all the drinks that (were) thrown around from the celebration,” Eastwood said, running a hand through his beer-soaked hair. “That’s 50 years of drinks (that) have been waiting to be thrown.”



Red and yellow confetti paints the sky during the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl LIV parade Feb. 5 in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. The event was attended by over one million people.





PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG RICHARD

The Northland Therapeutic Riding Center uses horseback riding as a form of therapy for children and adults with physical disabilities. The facility was the subject of a documentary made by a team of Northwest students.

# Team of media students produce documentary

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Managing Editor I @andrewwegley

When he first pulled up the Northland Therapeutic Riding Center, which sits off a gravel road in Holt, Missouri, Northwest senior Craig Richard unloaded a cluster of camera equipment from his car with the intention of making a two-minute clip, one that would serve as a promotional video for the rural riding center.

A half-hour later, Richard said, he knew his project revolving around the riding center should be something more. The center, which offers therapeutic horseback riding to both children and adults with physical disabilities, shifted from what was supposed to be the site of a short commercial to the subject of a documentary now streamable around the world.

After arriving at the riding facility in Holt and recording one interview, Richard texted Nate Agin, his Florida-based contact at Moribund Studios, a production company that Richard had been commissioned to make documentary films for. Moribund had already funded Richard's first project he said, though he was still unsure what that project might

be until he arrived at Northland Therapeutic.

"After I shot that first interview, I was like, 'This place is different,'" Richard said. "'It's amazing. This needs to be told — this story needs to be told because no one's told this story anywhere.'"

Richard texted Agin from Holt, asking for permission to make the riding facility the center of his documentary. He had a camera crew and equipment. He had a cool topic in front of him. He had two days to shoot the footage. He needed a green light.

"What do you think?" Richard said he texted to Agin. "And he goes, in all caps, 'YES. DO IT NOW.'"

And so, Richard did. Five months later, he made his debut as a documentary filmmaker before beginning his senior year of college, releasing a 17-minute film Dec. 19 entitled "Beyond the Saddle" featuring the riding center, one available for streaming on YouTube and Amazon Prime.

Richard, of course, had help in the project. Northwest senior Justin Wood, who got to know Richard in the pair's time together at KNWT Channel 8, where Richard serves as

the general manager, served as the director of photography in Richard's documentary. Northwest sophomore Morgan Jones worked as the grip, a behind-the-scenes position that deals with equipment and set-up. Sophomore Ben Whitney produced the documentary's graphics.

In all, the group had two days to film every shot required for the documentary that took Richard five months to edit, one with a runtime of fewer than 20 minutes.

"It was stressful," Richard said. "But I knew we could kill it."

"I think it came out way better than I was expecting," Wood said. "A lot of that credit goes to Craig and Ben though, 'cause all I did was run the camera and just go there and capture it. ... It was so much better than I ever expected."

After two days of frantic filming and at the conclusion of the editing process, the film made its debut in Kansas City, Missouri, Dec. 19 in front of a crowd of roughly 50 people, one that included friends, fellow filmmakers and people associated with Northland Therapeutic.

FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

# Your Bearcat is a fan of pot holes

I don't know why everyone is so insistent on complaining about the potholes that are littered up and down Walnut and Main Street and every other road within five square miles of Maryville, potholes that are probably more comparable to, I don't know, craters?

Driving isn't that hard with normal roads, which is why I always text when I do it. Driving on campus and around a small college town can be a little tougher under normal conditions, with all those people walking across road ways and such. But when the roads are clear, it's still pretty manageable.

Sometimes, when it's icy and snowy and the roads get a little more spooky, it can be kind of tough to navigate the roads for a few days. But when the sun comes out for its weekly appearance and the snowplows in Maryville make their once-in-a-lifetime route down the side streets, it gets to be too easy again.

I think it's time we embrace and

appreciate potholes for what they are: a reason to pay attention while driving.

You can't claim to like playing Mario Kart but then complain about all the damage the potholes are causing. It's the same thing. The only difference is your negative attitude, really.

When the weather first turns bad and it first starts to snow and the potholes first start sprouting, I, for one, get excited. Driving to campus is just a lot more engaging when I can't go 10 feet without having to swerve around a pothole. And knowing that one mis-turn could cause, like, \$500 worth of damage? That's what gets me up in the morning. That's what makes me eager to be in my seat 11 minutes before class. Finally, there's some stakes involved with my morning commute. Inject that into my veins.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian. Submit a Stroller to northwestmissourian@gmail.com*

# Pep band set to make triumphant return to basketball games

ABBEY HUGO  
Copy Editor I @abbey\_hugo

The bleachers at Bearcat Arena have had a little less pep in their steps this basketball season. The Northwest Pep Band has been unable to perform at any games thus far due to scheduling conflicts.

But it will make its "triumphant return" Feb. 6 at Northwest's game against Central Missouri, Director of Athletic Bands Kathryn Strickland said.

The game is a revenge match, as UCM broke the Bearcats' 46-game win streak back in December, and the game remains Northwest men's basketball's only loss this season. So the Pep Band's debut will be just in the nick of time, freshman Foster Huggins, leader of "The Hype Squad," formerly known as Shirtless Bearcats, said.

"For the games like against UCM on Thursday, those games got to be crazy, and the best way to do that is have the band there," Huggins said.

Though the men's undefeated record at home shows no sign of being bothered by the band's absence, the additional silence was definitely noticed by the team, as sophomore guard Trevor Hudgins mentioned following their victory Jan. 25.

"Last year (the crowd) would be into it the whole game. They just, like, going down," Hudgins said. "I could literally hear everything on the court. I could hear every-

one's shoes stepping, I could hear everyone talking. Normally, like, I would have a little bit of trouble hearing stuff. But it was just silent in the gym. I just wanted someone to say something, someone to clap — something. ... It's a home game for a reason."

Huggins said the crowd has been feeling the impact as well, echoing Hudgins' comments.

"(The energy has) been good, but it could be better. We definitely need the band there," Huggins said, continuing on to make a plea for higher student turnout as well. "We definitely need a student section. And the team's amazing; we should really have a lot of supporters there going crazy for them. Trevor Hudgins is always saying, 'Come on, get loud,' so obviously he wants us to get loud, so it'd be nice if we did."

The band has been equally disappointed. It's unusual to be this far into the season without performing.

"It's been a bummer," Strickland said. "We're not happy about it."

Freshman trumpet player Mariah Cain defined Pep Band as "a group of band kids that get together to cheer on the basketball team and try to help them win." But obviously it's difficult to cheer on the team when not at the games.

FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM



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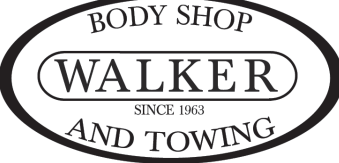
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SIGNING  
CONTINUED FROM A12

The transfer, junior Derec Weyer, perhaps helps define exactly what Northwest was looking for on the recruiting trail and in the transfer portal. The Harlan, Iowa, native and transfer from Southwest Minnesota State is listed at 6 foot6 and 301 pounds and could help fill immediate voids on the offensive front or provide depth to an area of emphasis for Rich Wright and company.

“If you were to go back three years and take a look at how we were comprised up front and you were to look at us today, we look a lot different,” Rich Wright said. “We’re bigger; we’re longer.”

ADDRESSING THE DEFENSE

Northwest recruited four defensive linemen and six linebackers to add reinforcements to its front seven, but perhaps the biggest emphasis was placed on the secondary. The Bearcats will be forced to deal with the loss of senior defensive backs Jake Gassman and Chama Pierre next fall and are gearing up to move forward after J’Ravi-en Anderson’s last season next fall.

“If there was a deficiency, through my lens, watching our defense, it’s our secondary needs to become better tacklers and become more physical,” Rich Wright said. “And that’s an area of emphasis.”

One piece of the solution appears to be transfer Edwyn Brown, a 6-foot-4 defensive back from Belleville, Illinois. Brown played in six games at Eastern Illinois University last season, missing parts of the year due to injury, and could be a part of a renewed sense of physicality Northwest is hoping to find in its secondary.

“I don’t ever guarantee anybody anything — he’s gonna have to earn whatever he gets,” Rich Wright said. “But he’s the type of kid that I’m probably not recruiting him if I don’t think he can be in the mix.”

FAMILY MATTERS

Northwest signed a host of players with familial ties to the program, including Cam Martin, a wide receiver from Nebraska whose brother, Zach Martin, played quarterback for the Bearcats in 2017 and now serves as the running backs coach.

Additionally, the Bearcats added five players whose older siblings still play for Northwest. Sam Bautz and Sam Clarkson, both offensive linemen, are set to join their brothers Gabe Bautz and Austin Clarkson. Linebacker Carson Elwood’s older brother Cole Elwood plays for Northwest as well.

From Texas, Miles Tatum is perhaps moving further away from home than any other 2020 recruit, though he’ll be doing so to join senior Alec Tatum in Northwest’s wide receiver corps. And starting quarterback Braden Wright’s brother Shae Wright is joining Northwest as a defensive back.

“I like little brothers because little brothers usually have something to prove,” Rich Wright said.

A NEW KIND OF RECRUIT

Parker Schmitz is the only 2020 signee in his position group for Northwest, mostly because he doesn’t play a position. Schmitz is listed as a “creative video,” signed to Northwest to create social media content to help push forward the team’s brand.

Rich Wright said the area was a growing need in the realm of Division II football, as social media has become an important and dy-



Northwest football coach Rich Wright (left) discussed the 50 signees in Northwest’s 2020 recruiting class on the Bearcat Coaches Show with John Coffey and Matt Tritten Feb. 4.

namic recruiting tool. The coach said that in 2015 and 2016, Division I schools reached out to Northwest, attempting to emulate the program’s ability to produce such good video content. Schmitz’s signing, Rich Wright said, is another step forward on that path, one the rest of the MIAA is still trying to catch up to the Bearcats on. Northwest hopes to keep it that way.

“Now, what we’ve tried to do each and every year is push the envelope,” Rich Wright said. “That was a big reason why we actively went out and recruited Parker.”

WHAT’S NEXT

Northwest’s 2020 roster isn’t yet

set in stone, of course. The Bearcats added one running back from the portal — Jamar Moya, who followed new offensive coordinator Todd Sturdy from MidAmerica Nazarene — but they’re still looking to add depth at the position.

“Production — that’s the No. 1 thing at that position,” Sturdy said. “I don’t necessarily think that position has to be a portal guy. ... If we can find a high school kid, we will. If we can find a portal kid, we will. But it’s all gonna go back to production.”

Even with the addition of Moya, who Sturdy told Rich Wright could have played for him at Iowa State, Northwest is looking to fill the void left by the departure of senior backs

Justin Rankin and Isaiah Strayhorn. Additionally, Northwest has an immediate need at tight end, where both Kyle Raunig and Marqus Andrews finished their careers last season. The same is true for defensive end.

After recruiting and signing 50 players in the last month and a half, Rich Wright said, Northwest still isn’t done.

“If all goes well and I find the right person — now, I’m not going to take somebody to take somebody,” Rich Wright said. “But if we find a guy that we’re targeting and he fits who we are, I would anticipate seeing all three of those positions being addressed.”



Northwest women’s basketball celebrates after a made 3-pointer against Nebraska-Kearney Jan 23, in Bearcat Arena. When the Bearcats face Central Missouri Feb. 6, they’ll face their fourth top 25 team of the season.

DUECES  
CONTINUED FROM A12

With the matchup coming in the wake of one of the Bearcats’ biggest wins of the year, they have the momentum to perhaps tally a new biggest win of the season.

“I think we just have a lot of added confidence that we might not have had earlier on in the season,” junior guard Jaelyn Haggard said. “So coming off of two really big wins last week only boosts our confidence going against a team like this. We’re excited to go out and compete and redeem ourselves from what we lacked before.”

Lincoln provides a challenge that presents itself as not much of one at

all. The Blue Tigers, of course, aren’t going to let the Bearcats win. But they’ve failed to win a game in the conference this season. In the first meeting of the season with the Blue Tigers Dec. 5, Northwest won 56-32. Both games, of course, are crucial towards deciding what fate lies ahead for the Bearcats.

It’s a destiny that they ultimately control.

That confidence was reiterated by Meyer, the second-year coach who is ready for the task that some might think is too tall.

“I think we know we can beat (Central),” Meyer said. “Obviously we’re going to have to play really well. But I think our kids are excited about the challenge of Cen-

tral coming.”

For Haggard and the rest of the program, the two seasons prior to this one were filled with a lot of things other than success. With less than a month left before finding out where the Bearcats lie come the conference tournament, the feeling of having a chance to play in the postseason is becoming possible.

“I think every year we’ve taken significant steps. Especially this year, the growth of our team has been tremendous,” Haggard said. “It’s really exciting to know that it’s within reach, but not getting overly excited because we’re taking it game-by-game. ... But just knowing it’s right there if we work hard enough for it.”

RIVALRY  
CONTINUED FROM A12

McCollum, though, refused to build on the hype. There is no extra motivation this week, he said. He’s never considered the historical weight of the two teams who have met 223 teams, he said. He puts no stock into the phrase “rivalry.”

In the 223-game mutual history between the two programs, though, there may be one that sticks with McCollum more than others.

Northwest lost to Central Missouri 60-59 in overtime of an NCAA Division II Central Regional Championship matchup in Mankato, Minnesota, March 18, 2014. Then-senior center Dillon Starzl, who McCollum called the best player on the team, tore his Achilles a few minutes into the matchup. Northwest was able to send the game into overtime without him. But the Bearcats wouldn’t advance any further.

“I remember kind of going to the bench (after the injury) and saying, ‘It’s still no excuse to lose. Like, we don’t have excuses,’” McCollum said. “I mean, it was a brawl. It was a tough, physical game.”

At the end of regulation, North-

west had a wide-open look at a 3-pointer from the corner that could have won the game.

“Missed it,” McCollum said. “And (Central) ended up winning a national title. So, it is what it is.”

The moment propelled Central on a run that ended with a championship trophy. The championship run drove Anderson, who coached the Mules for 12 seasons, into the head coaching job at Mizou. That season, McCollum said, pushed his program toward what it is now: the No. 1 team in the nation and the reigning Division II National Champions.

It’s Northwest’s status now, though, as a Division II powerhouse that helps explain why the Bearcats fell to Central 62-50 in the team’s last matchup Dec. 16. The Bearcats, of course, played poorly, shooting 36.5% from the field in the game and 24.1% from beyond the arc. But the Mules played better than they tend to, shooting 44% from beyond the arc despite a season average that hovers just above 36%.

“A part of it is, teams want to make a name off of you,” McCollum said. “You guys know who beat us this year. You’re very well aware. That’s what teams want to

be — that team that does it.”

Still, McCollum said, there is no added incentive to beat Central Missouri Feb. 6. His team isn’t worried about redemption or a rivalry, one that hasn’t always been much of one for Northwest. The Bearcats were 0-8 in their first eight matchups under McCollum. At 9-11, the coach’s head-to-head record against Central is still under .500.

“I think to say, when I first started, that it was a rivalry would probably be a mistake. I think I was 1-11 in my first 12 against them, something like that. It was pretty bad,” McCollum said. “And then they’d always call it a rivalry because we’d win the league or we’d tie for the league with them.”

“It was like, ‘Well, it’s not really a rivalry because they beat us every time,’” McCollum said. “I think (to be) a rival, you’ve got to win one every once in a while.”

McCollum and Northwest have won nine of the last 11 matchups. The Bearcats haven’t lost two in a row to Central since Starzl tore his Achilles and Anderson left for Missouri. Things are different now, but in some ways, still the same. Northwest is preparing for a rivalry game that doesn’t feel like one.

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# MHS wrestler leans on work ethic

**ROMAN METCALF**  
Sports Reporter | @Roman\_Metcall87

Hardworking, dedicated and goofy. Those words, among others, are few of the many words that describe Maryville wrestling junior Connor Weiss.

Connor Weiss, a state champion in football, is also a two-time state qualifier in wrestling. He’s seeking to continue that streak when the Spoofhounds compete in the District 4 Class 2 tournament Feb. 14-15.

Connor Weiss started wrestling in the second grade and has ever since, amounting to nine years of experience. His dad and grandpa, Connor Weiss said, were the ones who peaked his interest in wrestling.

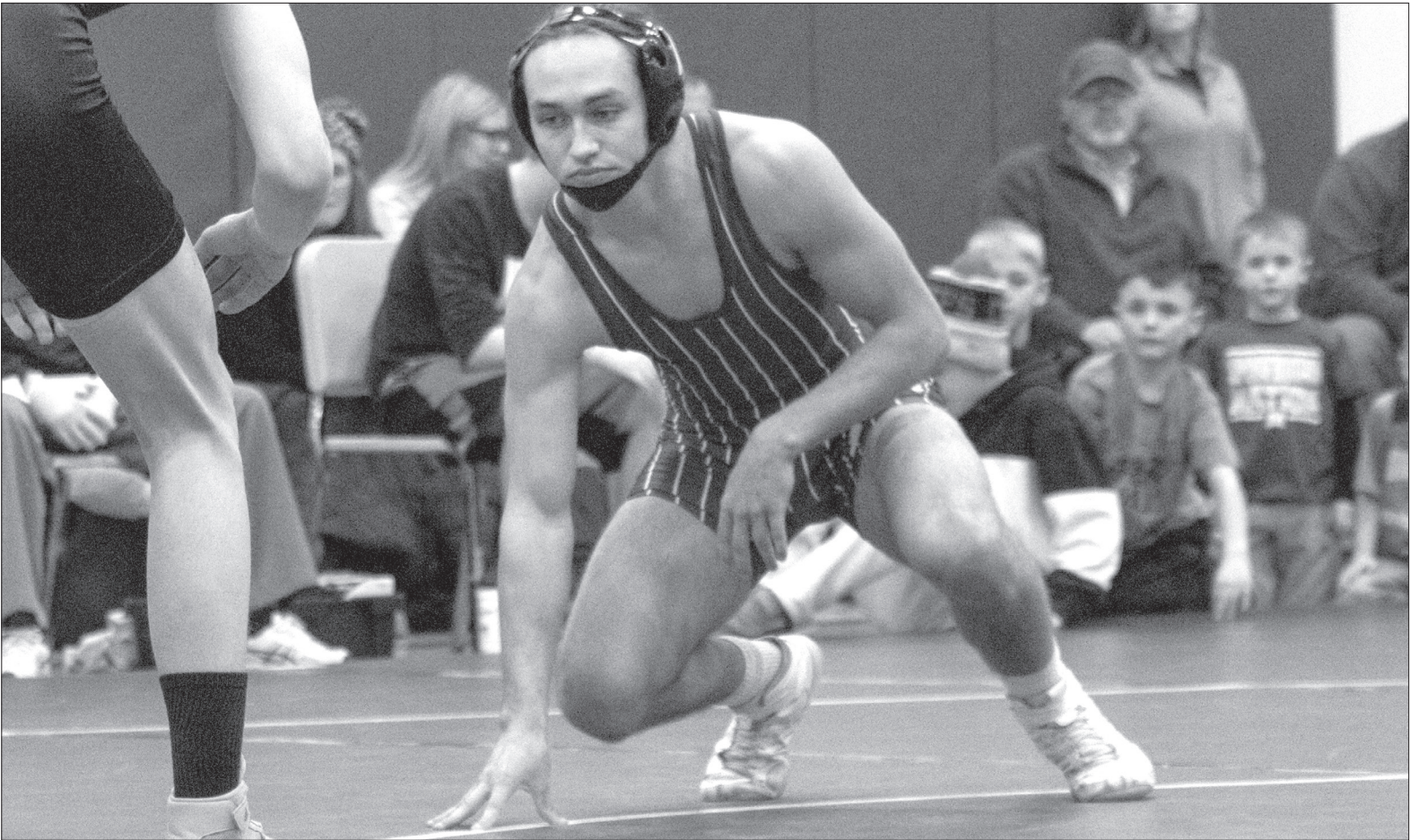
Winding down his third year of high school, his goals are to become a state champion.

“I’m just gonna go compete to the best of my ability and push myself so I can stand on the podium at the end of the season,” Connor Weiss said.

Connor Weiss has gotten high praise from his family, friends and teammates for his work ethic and the overall person he is. Childhood friend and Maryville wrestling alumnus Jackson Sanders said Connor Weiss is like his little brother and gives credit for how hard Connor Weiss works as an athlete.

“Connor is one of the most hard-working kids I have seen in awhile,” Sanders said. “He doesn’t give up; he never quits and always goes.”

Connor Weiss is mentally and physically strong, Sanders said. He can sometimes be a little stubborn, but that’s what makes him great,



**Northwest wrestling junior Connor Weiss sets up for a takedown during his match against Falls City (NE) Jan. 16 in the ‘Hound Pound. Weiss has a goal of qualifying for the state tournament for the second year in a row at the district tournament Feb. 14-15.**

Sanders added.  
Junior Kieren Watkins has wrestled with Connor Weiss since they were both in elementary school. The connection, Watkins said, has always been strong.

“He’s always been a good friend of mine,” Watkins said. “He is always a leader and wanting to help out and do his part. ... Connor has helped grow the program.”  
Connor Weiss’s sister, freshman

Katie Weiss, also had high praise for her brother and best friend. As of this year, the siblings have both been a part of the Maryville wrestling team.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

**UP NEXT**

**MHS @ Tri-duel**  
5:30 p.m. Feb. 6  
Lawson, Missouri

# Senior scores 1,000th career point in MEC win

**CALVIN SILVERS**  
Sports Reporter | @Calvin Silvers

Maryville boys basketball established its dominance Feb. 4 when the Spoofhounds defeated Bishop LeBlond 63-43.

Senior Night festivities recognized the efforts of guards Kelby Derr, Tate Oglesby and Tylan Perry.

A night filled with recognition was packed by the seniors and one of them, Oglesby, scoring his 1,000th career point. The mark was eclipsed when he made a free throw with 3:46 left in the second quarter.

Oglesby credited his teammates for accomplishing a milestone that only a handful of Spoofhounds can say they’ve reached.

“It felt good seeing the ball go in for the 1,000th point,” Oglesby said. “A lot of credit goes to my teammates. Obviously, it’s been a process, it’s been four years, and I wouldn’t be here without them. I just have to thank them from the bottom of my heart for being there.”

Aside from scoring his 1,000th point, Oglesby nearly perfected his overall game. He was cutting to the basket, finding the open man and also provided a dunk to cap off a fast break. Halfway through the

second quarter, Oglesby accounted for 11 points. This was more than Bishop LeBlond, which had 10. Oglesby finished with 19 points.

“I found success by being aggressive,” Oglesby said. “My teammates were able to create some gaps off of their drives. Really, it was a team effort, and the best thing is coming out with a win.”

Coach Matt Stoecklein summarized Oglesby’s importance to the Spoofhound program.

“He’s such a scorer,” Stoecklein said. “He’s been a good leader. If kids are slacking, he tends to get on them. He’ll say he’s the vocal leader and tell kids they need to work on certain things; he’s been awesome.”

Perry finished with 2 points and Derr found his specialty passing, which included two no-look passes in the fourth quarter.

“Tylan Perry just works so hard, he’ll do anything you ask,” Stoecklein said. “Kelby Derr is the same way. He’s so smart too. If you ask him any play he knows it and will walk kids through it. Great kid, great student and nice person.”

Maryville jumped out to a fast 7-0 lead in the first quarter due to Bishop Leblond’s slow tempo of play. The Eagles were not looking to cut and were instead passing



**Senior Tate Oglesby successfully scored his 1,000th point of his career during Spoofhounds’ senior night game against the Bishop LeBlond Golden Eagles.**

back and forth at the top of the key waiting for the open shot.  
However, Bishop Leblond got

their 3-point shots to fall and tied the game at 10 with 3:20 left in the first, forcing Stoecklein to call a timeout.

**UP NEXT**

**MHS @ Penney**  
7:30 p.m. Feb. 6  
Hamilton, Missouri

Out of the timeout, Maryville kept the pace fast and limited Bishop Leblond to zero points the rest of the quarter, pulling to a 19-10 lead.

“Sometimes it’s hard to get a kid to go out there and work really hard, but that’s a goal we’re trying to get at,” Stoecklein said. “On defense, set the pace faster, get stops, get steals, and we want to go down and set a quick pace.”

The fast pace of the Spoofhounds went against the Eagle’s gameplan. They lacked in transition defense and never forced Maryville to shoot the outside shot. They soon found themselves in a deep hole, down 31-23 at the half.

Eagles senior guard Kanon Sumpter wasn’t going to let his team slip away as he pushed the pace early in the second half. The Eagles found themselves down 31-28 two minutes into the third quarter.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

# Sophomore runs fastest 400-meter race in nation

**NATHAN ENGLISH**  
Sports Reporter | @ThananEnglish

Northwest indoor track and field competed at the Wendy’s Pittsburg State Invitational Feb. 1 in Pittsburg, Kansas.

As fast as the food is for the sponsor of the meet, Northwest sophomore Omar Austin wanted to be faster.

Austin won the 400-meter dash and finished with a time of 46 seconds and 87 milliseconds, which is the fastest time in the nation by 1 millisecond.

“It was not my best-executed race,” Austin said. “I wasn’t in my best condition.”

Austin ran his now nation-leading time after what both he and coach Brandon Masters surmised was a five-minute break after his run in the 60-meter dash finals, where he placed fifth with a time of 6.79. The short break was due to the event schedule at the meet, Masters said.

“He was feeling pretty sluggish from the 60,” Masters said. “Not having the ability to flush and really prep for a 400 and still run in 46 seconds is fantastic.”

Austin will not be running in the 400 at the Bearcat Open Feb. 7-8 in the Carl and Cheryl Hughes Fieldhouse. Instead, he will focus on the 200-meter dash, will possibly make an appearance in the 4-x-400 meter relay and will run in the 60, the event

that was rather unusual for him at the Pittsburgh State Invitational.

Austin slipped coming out of his blocks in the 60, which left him catching himself to avoid falling. That, of course, was costly towards his time. Austin managed to run 1 millisecond off his previous 60-meter time that netted him a first-place finish at the Bearcat Open Jan. 25.

“I don’t know how he ran that fast and still put his hand down,” Masters said.

Austin was pleased with his nation-best 400-meter and wants his 200-meter and 60-meter times to quickly follow suit.

“I just want to set a top five in the 60 and the two,” Austin said. “I want to let them know I can sprint as well.”

The attitude for Austin was the same as it has been all season, meet success is not enough — national success is the goal.

“There is nothing wrong with being top five in the meet; my goal is on the bigger picture,” Austin said.

“He is gonna throw down at MIAA’s, he’s gonna run so fast in finals,” Masters added. “He will go make nationals in the 60, two and four with what he has on his list right now.”

Senior Hiba Mahgoub was another Bearcat to earn a first-place finish at Pittsburg State. Mahgoub won the women’s 200 with a time

**UP NEXT**

**NW v Bearcat Open**  
Feb. 7-8  
Hughes Fieldhouse

of 24.41. Mahgoub, Masters said, was not satisfied with her time.

Masters said that going forward they will continue to build on Mahgoub’s acceleration. Masters expects big things from Mahgoub in the 200 when it comes time for the conference meet Feb. 28-March 1.

The Pittsburg State Invitational was a different meet than the Bearcats are used to and a lot of that had to do with the number of competitors. Masters estimated that the meet had around 1,600 competitors, twice as large as the next largest meet for the Bearcats.

The lengthy list of competitors led to a lengthy list of scratches for many schools just trying to shorten the meet and keep athletes healthy, Masters said.

“People were just like, ‘This meet’s taking forever; we’re heading home,’” Masters said.

Pittsburg State will play host to a smaller meet in competition size, but large in importance, as they host the MIAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. Masters likes the facility, but said it doesn’t compare to the Bearcats’ home track.

“It’s not Hughes Fieldhouse, but it’s still a solid track,” Masters said.



**Northwest indoor track and field sophomore Omar Austin ran the fastest time in the nation in the 400-meter dash with a run of 46 seconds, 87 milliseconds at the Wendy’s Pittsburg State Invitational Feb. 1 in Pittsburg, Kansas.**





SUBMITTED | NW MISSOURIAN  
Northwest football signee defensive back Josh Turner celebrates on the sideline during a Friday night in his last season of high school football. Turner plays the sport in honor of his late cousin, Amari Bell, who originally convinced Turner to start playing football. Prior to that moment, Turner participated in basketball until the end of grade school.

# Recruit plays football in honor of his late cousin

JON WALKER  
Sports Editor | @ByJonWalker

Northwest football’s recruiting class of 2020 consists of nearly 40 freshmen that will step onto campus this summer to begin preparing for the next four years.

The class includes local stand-outs, the starting quarterback’s little brother and state champions.

It also includes a defensive back from Chicago, Illinois: Josh Turner.

Turner’s journey starts where another one ended. For the most part, Turner was a basketball player. He was never really into the physicality that was presented in football, he said. However, that changed when his cousin, Amari Bell, persuaded him to put the pads on for the first time when he was close to entering middle school.

“He inspired me,” Turner said.

“He told me to come play football with him, so I checked it out.”

The duo played football together for a year before being separated due to different leagues. That lone season that Turner and Bell played together would be the last. Bell played in a league across the city, Turner said. Amid one of Bell’s games, a helmet-to-helmet hit put him in the hospital. A couple of days later, Turner said, Bell died due to complications from the injury.

In memory, Turner has played for Bell since the incident. The kid who was a basketball player turned into a Division II football player in honor of his cousin who was somewhat like his brother, Turner said.

“He took everything he had — he put into football,” Turner said. “He was just dedicated so much.

You couldn’t tell him anything, he knew everything. So me, I just want to live that out for him, and I’m not going to make no excuse or nothing. So I’m just going to do what I do under any circumstance and take that head-on.”

In some ways, Bell’s influence chawed Turner into the person he has become. The perseverance and determination that Turner preached that Bell had are traits that he carries upon his own shoulders.

If he’s going to do something, Turner said, he’s doing it until it’s finished. No matter what it is, he added. That includes, along with playing for his late cousin, playing for his mother, who is a single parent of three.

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NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

# Signee makes Wright decision to play alongside his brother

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The Bearcats had 50 players sign or give verbal commitment to the football team on National Signing Day Feb. 5

Shae Wright, as is his brother, is an Omaha, Nebraska, native. Trying to make a name for himself, he played football, baseball and ran track at Elkhorn South High School.

His own passion for the game came when he was five years old, when he started playing flag football.

Shae Wright, a safety, found his motivation from a former NFL standout that is now enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. His way of discovery came from being indulged in the game.

“Watching Ed Reed as a kid and seeing how fun he made the position look,” Shae Wright said. “Safeties are known as the quarterback of the defense and I always thought I should play quarterback.”

Shae Wright’s thought of wanting to play quarterback perhaps stemmed from the fact that his brother has been the first-string gunslinger for North-



SUBMITTED | NW MISSOURIAN  
Northwest football signee safety Shae Wright is the brother of the Bearcats’ starting quarterback, Braden Wright. The two previously played together at Elkhorn South High School in Omaha, Nebraska.

west for the past two seasons. He found that despite possibly being in his shadow, Braden Wright’s motivation was something that he could strive towards attaining.

When both suit up in green in the fall, Shae Wright is excited to look down the sideline and see his

brother standing there as well.

“I’m really excited I get to play with (Braden),” Shae Wright said. “But I’m most excited to get to play for such an amazing program.”

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# Football player overcomes injury to play at next level

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The town of Scottsbluff, Nebraska, around an eight-hour drive northwest from Northwest, is home to the Scottsbluff High School Bearcats. The Scottsbluff Bearcats have already produced one current Northwest football player and another will soon join the ranks.

Sam Clarkson is a senior offensive lineman for Scottsbluff committed to Northwest and will follow in his brother Austin Clarkson’s footsteps, who is a junior offensive lineman for Northwest. The Northwest roots don’t stop there, however, Sam Clarkson and Austin Clarkson’s mother Julie Clarkson also graduated from Northwest.

Sam Clarkson officially committed to Northwest Oct. 19, providing a bright spot on the sour day in which then-undefeated Northwest lost to Nebraska-Kearney 24-17. For Sam Clarkson, the decision to come to Northwest was an easy one.

“I kind of always knew deep down in my heart that it was a place I could see myself at, that I wanted to be at,” Sam Clarkson said.

Sam Clarkson has been playing football since he was in third grade and loves the competition and contact football brings.

“You get to kinda go out and hit some kids, let a little energy out and that’s always fun,” Sam Clarkson said. “It’s just something I have fallen in love with since the first day I played it.”

The Clarkson household was somewhat rambunctious, Sam Clarkson said, which was to be expected with two offensive linemen in one living space. Backyard football was a staple at the Clarkson household, Sam Clarkson added, and they definitely didn’t play two-hand touch.

On his official visit to Northwest, Sam Clarkson said, Northwest coach Rich Wright joked about having the Clarkson brothers square off to see who was tougher. Sam Clarkson is confident he would come out on top of that family affair.

“He’s got the 40 pounds on me right now,” Sam Clarkson said about his brother. “But I think I got the tenacity behind me.”

Sam Clarkson has used his tenacity to overcome an injury that cut his high school football playing career by 25%. He tore his ACL playing summer league basketball before his junior year. Austin Clarkson had gone through an ACL tear of his own after his senior season of football and neither of the brothers actually believed Sam Clarkson’s was torn.

“I really didn’t struggle too much moving around,” Sam Clark-



SUBMITTED | NW MISSOURIAN  
Northwest football signee Sam Clarkson overcame a torn ACL before his junior season. Clarkson injured himself playing summer basketball.

son said. “I actually played in a basketball tournament like three days after I tore it.”

Sam Clarkson has no regrets about his decision to play basketball. He loves the sport almost as much as he loves football, and it helps with his agility and footwork.

The ACL tear caused him to watch his entire junior year of football from the sidelines. Sam Clarkson went to rehab almost every day instead of going to practice. He remained connected with the team but was disappointed in missing an entire season. However, there was something good that developed out of it, Sam Clarkson said.

“I kinda think I came out more athletic than I was before,” Sam Clarkson said. “I kinda look at it as a blessing in disguise.”

Sam Clarkson said the injury made him appreciate the game of football that much more, and that while it took some time for him to get comfortable on the field again, he was very thankful for the opportunity.

“It was just awesome, just after all that time off, finally getting to do what you love to do again,” Sam Clarkson said.

Judson Hall served as the Scottsbluff football coach for Sam Clarkson’s senior season and was the offensive coordinator for the six years prior. Hall said the ACL injury helped develop Sam Clarkson as a leader. Sam Clarkson served as a player-coach during his junior year. He wore a headset on the sidelines and would coach the offensive line as they came off the field. Hall said he appreciates all that Sam Clarkson did for the program and for the school as a whole.

“Sam is somebody that if you are raising sons, he is someone that you want your sons to grow up

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# Northwest football inks 50 signees to 2020 class

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Managing Editor I @andrewwegley

Northwest football announced its 2020 recruiting class on National Signing Day Feb. 5, adding a crop of 50 signees to the



program that finished with a 12-2 record last season. Led by coach Rich Wright, who is gearing up for his fourth season at the helm of the program, Northwest inked 46 high school student-athletes and tabbed four trans-

fers in this year's recruiting class. Half of the 50 athletes signed are from Missouri, while the other 25 come from a combination of eight states with Iowa (9), Nebraska (5) and Kansas (3) counting as the next closest states.

In some ways, the class is numerically heavy on the offensive side but loaded with value on defense, Rich Wright said. The Bearcats recruited 10 wide receivers — the most of any position — as well as three recruits listed as "athletes" who could wind up playing wide-out, defensive back or elsewhere. In 29 recruits, including the three athletes without a position listed, are offensive players, while 17 are defenders and the rest are special teams. "I felt like we really hit a home run with the linebacker class (and) the secondary class," Rich Wright said. "I

thought we did an outstanding job on the offensive line, and I thought we kind of addressed our height issue at the wide receiver position."

**THE OFFENSIVE FRONT**  
One of the goals for the Bearcats heading into the signing period was to continue building on the size of their offensive line. Rich Wright said the team did just that in the 2020 recruiting class, signing six linemen out of high school and inking one transfer to the program.

SEE SIGNING | A9



RACHEL ADAMSON | NW MISSOURIAN  
Northwest women's basketball guard Mallory McConkey has thrived in her return to the Bearcats' starting lineup from injury, scoring at least 11 points and grabbing at least 4 rebounds in each of her starts since her Jan. 25 return. After dropping five games in a row, Northwest went 2-0 Jan. 30-Feb. 1 in conference matchups with Newman and Central Oklahoma.

# DUECES

Women leave road trip with pair of vital wins

JON WALKER  
Sports Editor I @ByJonWalker

For Northwest women's basketball, the second half of the season is rather vital to the fate of the program's 2019-20 campaign. The fate, of course, was worrisome heading into a road trip to face Newman Jan. 30 and Central Oklahoma Feb. 1. Five straight losses left the Bearcats at 10th in the conference, which would be enough to squeak into the last spot of the MIAA Tournament March 4-7. With the team's goal of making it to the tournament hanging in the balance, it picked up wins over both the Jets (9-13, 4-9 MIAA) and the Bronchos (15-6, 9-4 MIAA). "We're still confident that we're getting better," Northwest coach



Austin Meyer said. "To get those wins was definitely huge for the psyche of our team. Both wins came in bouts that were blow-for-blow. Northwest managed to take Newman to double overtime, eventually resulting in a 70-67 win. The win, of course, was certain at the end of both extra periods. However, everything up to that point, wasn't so certain. The victory marked the first double-overtime win for the program since Jan. 25, 1984. With three seconds left, Newman had an opportunity for a last-second heave. That shot was to no avail. With it went Newman's hopes of having the tiebreaker should the Bearcats and Jets finish with the same conference record. That same hope, for Northwest, never wavered. "We made plays when we needed to," Meyer said. "We never got

our heads down when they hit shots, even when they scored at the end of regulation to send it to overtime. Our team came back to the huddle, and it was like, 'Here we go. We've got five more minutes to play.' It wasn't heads down; I think it shows a lot about our team." Perhaps the most notable game of the year for the women was followed by one that would, in some ways, prove to be bigger. On the heels of the thriller against Newman came a matchup with the No. 3 team in the conference at the time. Northwest had been in games against top-ranked teams among the likes of Central Missouri, Emporia State and Fort Hays. In all of those games, Northwest put up a fight that would be refuted by bigger ones from those teams. Against Central Oklahoma, the fight that the Bearcats provided would result in a knockout.

## UP NEXT

NW v Central Missouri  
5:30 p.m. Feb. 6  
Bearcat Arena

Both of the wins kept Northwest's hope of making it to Municipal Auditorium alive and now leads the Bearcats back to Bearcat Arena for a pair of home games against Central Missouri Feb. 6 and Lincoln Feb. 8. The matchup with the Jennies serves as a rematch from a game that Northwest was a part of for the first three quarters. In the fourth, it was outmatched by Central Missouri (17-3, 11-0 MIAA). The team, Meyer said, is different this time around than it was in the Dec. 7 matchup in Warrensburg, Missouri.

SEE DUECES | A9

# Northwest set to renew historic rivalry with UCM



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN  
Northwest men's basketball lost its first eight games against Central Missouri in coach Ben McCollum's tenure, but is 9-11 since 2014.

ANDREW WEGLEY  
Managing Editor I @andrewwegley

When he stood up and grabbed the room's attention for his turn to speak at the Northwest Athletics' media luncheon Feb. 4, Northwest tennis coach Mark Roswell began a speech that seemed partly planned and partly on-the-fly, one that bordered the line between a rant and a history lesson. None of it was about tennis. He started the two-and-a-half-minute discourse with the origins of the MIAA. The "M," he said, used to stand for Missouri. He talked about a historic basketball rivalry between Northwest and Central Missouri, making stops in his own timeline for important events. The lecture meandered its way



from James Naismith, the inventor of basketball, and his coaching days in Warrensburg in the early 1900s, to Henry Iba, who coached the U.S. Olympic team, and his tenure at Northwest. It leaped from the '30s to the '70s to the 2010s. It included Kim Anderson, who coached at Central before landing a job at the University of Missouri and Northwest coach Ben McCollum. The oration was informative and exciting and at times hard to follow. And it ultimately served as a preamble for what's next for Northwest men's basketball by recapping everywhere the program had been in the last century. It served as a promotional speaking engagement for an upcoming matchup. The tennis coach spoke like he was drumming up ticket sales for the basketball team's next matchup against Central Missouri.

## UP NEXT

NW v Central Missouri  
7:30 p.m. Feb. 6  
Bearcat Arena

ri 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6 at Bearcat Arena. "What I'm going with here is: there's two teams left in the MIAA that are original teams," Roswell said. "That's Northwest and Central. What a rivalry here." The impassioned speech set the stage for the upcoming matchup, which will pit No. 1 Northwest (20-1, 10-1 MIAA) against the Mules (9-11, 4-7 MIAA). They're the only team to beat the Bearcats since March 10, 2018.

SEE RIVALRY | A9

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